

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 5 1 (currently amended): A method for ~~programming~~ fabricating a routing layout design, the method comprising:
- (a) forming a plurality of metal traces on a first routing layer and a second routing layer; and
- 10 (b) positioning a plurality of vias within a via layer disposed between the first and second routing layers for connecting the metal traces on the first and second routing layers according to a first current route defined by a predetermined circuit layout design used for connecting a first node and a second node so as to establish a second current route equivalent to the first current route.
- 15 2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the step (a) comprises:
- positioning a plurality of first conducting wires and a plurality of second conducting wires on a plurality of horizontal tracks and a plurality of vertical tracks of the first routing layer respectively;
- 20 and
- positioning a plurality of third conducting wires and a plurality of fourth conducting wires on a plurality of horizontal tracks and a plurality of vertical tracks of the second routing layer respectively, the third conducting wire on a k^{th} horizontal track of the second routing layer vertically overlapping the first conducting wire on the k^{th} horizontal track of the first routing layer.
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3 (original): The method of claim 2, wherein the step (b) comprises:

positioning one of the vias within the via layer for electrically
connecting the first conducting wire on the k^{th} horizontal track of
the first routing layer and the third conducting wire on the k^{th}
5 horizontal track of the second routing layer when the first node
and the second node are electrically connected to the first
conducting wire on the k^{th} horizontal track of the first routing
layer and the third conducting wire on the k^{th} horizontal track of
the second routing layer respectively.

10 4 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the step (a) comprises:

positioning a plurality of first conducting wires and a plurality of
second conducting wires on a plurality of horizontal tracks and a
plurality of vertical tracks of the first routing layer respectively;
15 and

positioning a plurality of third conducting wires and a plurality of
fourth conducting wires on a plurality of horizontal tracks and a
plurality of vertical tracks of the second routing layer respectively,
the third conducting wire on an m^{th} horizontal track of the second
20 routing layer partially overlapping the second conducting wire on
an n^{th} vertical track of the first routing layer.

5 (original): The method of claim 4, wherein the step (b) comprises:

positioning one of the vias within the via layer for electrically
25 connecting the second conducting wire on the n^{th} vertical track of
the first routing layer and the third conducting wire on the m^{th}
horizontal track of the second routing layer when the first node is
electrically connected to the second conducting wire on the n^{th}

vertical track of the first routing layer and the second node is electrically connected to the third conducting wire on the m^{th} horizontal track of the second routing layer.

5 6 (original): The method of claim 4, wherein the third conducting wire on the m^{th} horizontal track of the second routing layer partially overlaps the first conducting wire on the m^{th} horizontal track of the first routing layer, and the first conducting wire on the m^{th} horizontal track of the first routing layer partially overlaps the fourth conducting wire on the
10 $n^{\text{th}}+1$ vertical track of the second routing layer.

7 (original): The method of claim 4, wherein the second conducting wire on the n^{th} vertical track of the first routing layer partially overlaps the fourth conducting wire on the n^{th} vertical track of the second routing
15 layer, and the first conducting wire on the $m^{\text{th}}+1$ horizontal track of the first routing layer partially overlaps the fourth conducting wire on the n^{th} vertical track of the second routing layer.

8 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the step (a) comprises:
20 positioning a plurality of first conducting wires and a plurality of second conducting wires on a plurality of horizontal tracks and on a plurality of vertical tracks of the first routing layer respectively;
and
positioning a plurality of third conducting wires and a plurality of
25 fourth conducting wires on a plurality of horizontal tracks and on a plurality of vertical tracks of the second routing layer respectively, the fourth conducting wire on an r^{th} vertical track of the second routing layer partially overlapping the second

conducting wire on the r^{th} vertical track of the first routing layer.

9 (original): The method of claim 8, wherein the step (b) comprises:

5 positioning one of the vias within the via layer for electrically
 connecting the second conducting wire on the r^{th} vertical track of
 the first routing layer and the fourth conducting wire on the r^{th}
 vertical track of the second routing layer when the first node is
 electrically connected to the second conducting wire on the r^{th}
10 vertical track of the first routing layer and the second node is
 electrically connected to the fourth conducting wire on the r^{th}
 vertical track of the second routing layer.

10 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the step (a) comprises:

15 positioning a plurality of first conducting wires and a plurality of
 second conducting wires on a plurality of horizontal tracks and on
 a plurality of vertical tracks of the first routing layer respectively;
 and
 positioning a plurality of third conducting wires and a plurality of
 fourth conducting wires on a plurality of horizontal tracks and on
20 a plurality of vertical tracks of the second routing layer
 respectively, the fourth conducting wire on an s^{th} vertical track of
 the second routing layer partially overlapping the first conducting
 wire on a t^{th} horizontal track of the first routing layer.

25 11 (original): The method of claim 10, wherein the step (b) comprises:

 positioning one of the vias within the via layer for electrically
 connecting the first conducting wire on the t^{th} horizontal track of
 the first routing layer and the fourth conducting wire on the s^{th}

vertical track of the second routing layer when the first node is electrically connected to the first conducting wire on the t^{th} horizontal track of the first routing layer and the second node is electrically connected to the fourth conducting wire on the s^{th} vertical track of the second routing layer.

12 (original): The method of claim 10, wherein the first conducting wire on the t^{th} horizontal track of the first routing layer partially overlaps the third conducting wire on the t^{th} horizontal track of the second routing layer, and the third conducting wire on the t^{th} horizontal track of the second routing layer partially overlaps the second conducting wire on the $s^{\text{th}}+1$ vertical track of the first routing layer.

13 (original): The method of claim 10, wherein the second conducting wire on the s^{th} vertical track of the second routing layer partially overlaps the second conducting wire on the s^{th} vertical track of the first routing layer, and the second conducting wire on the s^{th} vertical track of the first routing layer partially overlaps the third conducting wire on the $t^{\text{th}}+1$ horizontal track of the first routing layer.

14 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the metal traces on the first routing layer and the corresponding metal traces on the second routing layer have substantially the same lengths.

15 (original): The method of claim 1 being applied to a multi-layer circuit board.

16 (original): The method of claim 1 being applied to a semiconductor

device.

17 (new): A method for fabricating a routing layout design, the method comprising:

- 5 (a) pre-defining a plurality of traces respectively on at least two routing layers;
- (b) performing a placement and routing (P and R) step for obtaining a routing design,
- 10 (c) performing a morphing step for matching the routing design to the pre-defined traces on the at least two routing layers, and
- (d) positioning a plurality of vias within a via layer disposed between two of the at least two routing layers for connecting the traces on the routing layers such that a routing functionality of the routing design is achieved by the routing layers and the via layer.

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18 (new): The method of claim 17, wherein the step (c) comprises:
respectively selecting at least one of the traces on the routing layers
such that a union of the selected traces matches at least one routing
in the routing design.

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19 (new): The method of claim 17, wherein the step (a) comprises:
pre-defining a first trace on a first routing layer of the at least two
routing layers, and
pre-defining a second trace on a second routing layer of the at least two
25 routing layers, such that the second trace overlaps the first trace in a
middle portion between two end portions of the second trace, and
each of the two end portions and the middle portion of the second
trace has a pre-defined space for positioning at least one via.

20 (new): A method for fabricating a routing layout design, the method comprising:

pre-defining a plurality of traces respectively on two routing layers;

5 while achieving a first routing design, positioning at least one first via within a via layer disposed between the two routing layers such that a connection of the traces on the two routing layers and the at least one first via can achieve the first routing design;

10 while achieving a different second routing design, positioning at least one second via at locations different from those of the at least one first via within a via layer disposed between the identical two routing layers, such that a connection of the traces on the identical two routing layers and the at least one second via can achieve the second routing design.

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